



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices for next week were trending higher in the Midwest, mostly unchanged elsewhere. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. Retail demand was slow to fair, instances moderate. Food service was light to moderate, but good into fast food channels. Supplies were sufficient to close balanced, often limited for smaller sizes. In the parts structure, trading was light to moderate at best with offerings mostly in balance or available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate. Weights were in a full range, but mostly desirable to heavy.

Preliminary report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 04/05/04-04/09/04 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A

(Including branded product)

AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	72.00-75.00	71.00-81.00	74.20	28
Los Angeles	80.00			
New York	75.00-77.00			
Southeast Area	FOB Dock Equivalent			
Mississippi	74.00-77.00	71.50-79.00	75.30	79

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 74.75 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.
905	69.250-77.00	74.57

Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD. AVG. (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	257.00	1,244
BREASTS - B/S	227.50	5,406
BREASTS - WHOLE	123.50	1,790
THIGH MEAT - B/S	110.50	1,011
LEG QUARTERS	34.50	7,441

WINGS 130.50 2,940

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries into the Chicago area increased one cent from Monday's final. The market tone on whole broiler/fryers was steady to fully steady. Offerings were available on heavy wogs and whole fryers; limited on lighter weights. Trade interest was measured and light overall. Retail trade was disappointing and slower than expected for the weekend in the St. Louis area; all other areas noted light to moderate demand. Food service demand was very slow in the St. Louis area; moderate elsewhere to instances good into fast food in the Chicago area. Floor stocks were adequate to ample. Weights desirable to heavy. Trade activity on parts was selective and very light on fully sufficient offerings. The market tone was mostly steady with a cautious undertone.

SOUTHERN BROILER Trade sentiment was mixed, but at least steady entering the weekend. Retail demand was light to fair; food service was fair to moderate, best into fast food for promotions. Supplies were in good balance for trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was light to moderate. Breast items were balanced to close, dark meat was moving into a better position with improved interest, and wings were available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices unchanged from last Friday's levels. Early trading reported for next week's deliveries at mainly unchanged prices. Buying activity was fair. Offerings were adequate. Retailer demand was fair to fairly good best to cover features in progress. Dealers anticipated moderate

weekend carryovers. Parts overall steady.

Ads noted (per pound unless otherwise stated):

Arizona – whole split 129, roaster 99, boneless breast 349-429, boneless leg meat 199-299, split breast 89, drumstick 88-149, thigh 88-149, leg quarter 69-99;

Colorado – boneless breast 199-349, boneless breast free range 499-599, boneless breast tenders 499, leg quarter 79, boneless thigh 199, boneless breast fillets 299,

(deli food service) – whole rotisserie chicken each 499);

Idaho – whole cut-up 99, cornish hen 22 ounce 250, boneless breast 4# bagged IQF 696-1099, boneless breast 299, boneless breast tenders 299, thigh 99, leg quarter 69,

(deli food service) – whole rotisserie chicken each 499);

Northern California – whole body 89-109, roaster 119, boneless breast tenders 399, boneless breast seasoned 499, boneless breast 299-449, boneless breast 5# bagged IQF 799, split breast 239, boneless thigh meat free range 299, whole leg free range 169, ground breast 399, wings 129, drumstick 119, leg quarter 119, thigh 119;

Southern California – whole body 57-119, whole seasoned 159, whole cut-up 119-149, Cornish hen 159, Cornish hen 22 ounce 250, boneless breast 197-279, boneless breast marinated 247, boneless breast tenders 3# bagged IQF 698, boneless thigh meat 168-249, boneless thigh meat 3# bagged IQF 498, boneless leg meat 89-129, whole leg 99, leg quarter 89, wing 139-159, thigh 77-169, thigh 4# bagged IQF 250, drumstick 59-169, drumstick 4# bagged IQF 250, drumstick 5# bagged 295,

(deli food service) - fried 12 piece mix 599, 8 piece drumstick and thigh 499, chicken tenders 299 per pound, 10 piece chicken tenders 399, whole rotisserie chicken 499 each).

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was fair to moderate entering the weekend. Offerings of the 2.5 to 3 pound birds were adequate to balanced. The heavier weights were mixed in availability, but noted as better balanced. Retail and distributive draw was about fair. The market tone was mostly steady. In the parts complex, breast items were at least sufficient. Dark meat items were generally adequate. Wings and tenders were well cleared.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYER Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds generally increased over early week and was sufficient in keeping offerings in good balance to well cleared. Live supplies were moderate; weights were mostly desirable to light. Processor schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 76 to 87 cents. Trade sentiment was steady to fully steady. In the parts complex, supplies were adequate and in generally good balance. *BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A

RANGE	70-91
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	77.79
NO. OF BOXES	8,386
CUMULATIVE	78.53
	54.88
NO. OF BOXES	30,135
	44,699

*7 of 7 plants reporting.

APR 15

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS

APR 16

ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS				WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	862	210.00-296.00	210-215	212.77	892	209.00-296.00	212-215	213.22	4,417	215.85
TENDERLOINS	183	230.00-278.00	230-237	240.71	178	230.00-278.00	235-239	241.85	1,041	239.59
BREAST - LINE RUN	103	114.00-127.00	114-118	117.90	103	113.00-127.00	115-118	118.15	555	117.91
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				305	112.10
LEGS	833	38.00-56.00	38-40	40.09	185	38.00-56.00	38-40	46.65	1,357	41.14
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	555	30.00-33.00	30-31	30.77	555	29.00-33.00	30-31	30.77	2,855	30.74
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	940	32.00-38.00	32-35	33.87	1,300	32.00-38.00	32-34	33.75	5,060	33.64
WINGS (WHOLE)	297	120.00-126.00	-	123.95	305	120.00-134.00	124-126	124.26	1,528	124.24
WINGS (CUT)	682	137.00-142.00	137-139	139.08	562	135.00-142.00	137-139	138.99	2,799	139.13
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				190	39.79
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				137	53.81
B/S THIGHS	95	95.00-118.00	-	111.32	107	98.00-118.00	-	109.03	492	110.20

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS*****
WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR APRIL 15, 2004 F.O.B. DOCK.

TRADING FOR APRIL 16, 2004 F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
69.00 - 74.00	71.61	69.00 - 74.50	71.39	71.44

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS - Trucklot buying activity had increased under typical weekend interest, but remained no better than moderate overall. Offerings of breast items were generally adequate for current needs. Dark meat items were sufficient. Wings and tenderloins were adequate to balanced. Retail movement remained fair to moderate, best for scattered feature activity. Distributive draw was moderate. The market tone was steady.

ICE PACKED B/F PARTS, DLVRD TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER LB.

APR 09

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			WTD	CURRENT NEG			WTD	WEEKLY
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		
BREAST - B/S	220	218.01	425,503		220	219.64	480,554	216.90	2,166,789
TENDERLOINS	235	201.64	112,870		235	228.36	44,680	211.19	410,960
BREAST - WITH RIBS	114-115	120.05	165,800		114-115	119.83	211,320	120.05	658,480
BREAST - LINE RUN	114	115.67	93,200		114	115.54	125,200	115.46	558,880
LEGS	43-44	40.91	260,920		43-44	42.21	298,571	42.08	1,319,772
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	33-34	33.09	385,813		33-34	33.41	457,940	33.22	1,780,771
DRUMSTICKS	31-32	39.65	80,800		31-32	38.33	158,800	39.57	540,430
THIGHS	42-43	47.60	50,080		42-43	47.85	96,120	47.17	328,070
B/S THIGHS	110-111	109.82	61,280		110-111	103.72	149,880	106.72	325,930
WINGS (WHOLE)	116-117	127.19	89,080		116-117	125.26	103,350	124.13	535,430
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	12.07	36,880		10-12	11.93	45,120	11.95	163,852
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	33.80	9,200		35-40	32.80	9,240	31.68	64,425
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	59.00	17,360		55-60	60.13	11,480	59.61	86,070

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). * TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPE, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WT		ACTUAL		AVG WTS	
	(1,000)		(1,000)				(1,000)			
	04/16	04/15	04/14	04/13	04/14	04/13	04/09	04/07		
ALA	4,501	3,980	3,908	3,915	5.30	5.38	3,561	5.26		
ARK	4,891	5,330	5,177	5,306	5.07	5.09	5,019	5.08		
DELMARVA	2,166	2,227	2,179	2,254	5.53	5.62	1,683	5.48		
KY-LA-TN	2,297	2,018	2,003	2,007	5.02	5.16	1,939	5.09		
MISS	2,688	2,717	2,823	3,039	5.42	5.52	2,898	5.42		
NC	2,741	2,434	2,460	2,368	6.44	6.45	1,897	6.44		
TEXAS	2,304	2,306	2,347	2,299	5.12	5.19	2,263	5.02		
TOTAL	21,588	21,012	20,897	21,188	5.37	5.43	19,260	5.35		
MON-FRI	104,106(A)						102,783(A)			

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 16-Apr-04 and 17-Apr-04 is estimated to be 32,298,000 up 11.75 percent from a week ago and up 30.0 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 28,902,000; last year 24,840,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the week ending 17-Apr-04 is estimated to be 151,700,000 head, up 1 percent from a week ago, and up 5 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 150,462,000; Last year 144,469,000)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	93-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	95-105
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	71-81
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	105-114
ICE PACK	105
ROASTERS 4# & UP	107-109
ICE PACK	105-107
HENS OVER 5#	88-93
ICE PACK	93-95
DUCKS	162-185

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 03-Apr-04 (Preliminary),

	(A) Fast food/ Food service	(B) Retail	(C) Deboning
	4.20 Lbs & down	4.21-5.25 Lbs	5.26 Lbs & Up
	THOUSANDS		

Head	26,303	23,744	43,048
Avg Weight	3.76	4.70	6.34
% of total /1	28%	26%	46%

COMPARISONS

Last week	26,131	26,466	47,557
Avg Weight	3.58	4.76	6.24
% of total /1	26%	26%	47%

Same week, yr ago /2	23,614	25,770	39,318
Avg Weight	3.86	4.80	6.20
% of total /1	27%	29%	44%

To date/2004	342,029	284,036	569,195
To date/2003	316,788	290,230	555,484

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding. /2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION W/E 10-Apr-04 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
	THOUSANDS				
HEAD	150,462	1,362	1,305	2,667	464
AVG WT	5.22	3.41	8.06	5.69	6.74
LAST WEEK	152,052	1,234	1,172	2,406	507
SAME WK YR AGO	152,185	1,955	1,221	3,176	405
AVG WT	5.17	3.44	8.00	5.19	6.73
TO-DATE/2004	2,144,901	17,870	17,683	35,553	6,483
TO-DATE/2003	2,116,286	23,960	18,883	42,843	5,855

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 156.9 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 153.9 million head or 3 million head less than or 98% of estimated fryers available.

GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION - APRIL 13, 2004

PRICES PAID PER POUND, EXCEPT AS NOTED

AI PAPERS REQUIRED TO SELL ALL OUT OF STATE POULTRY

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	1.50 - 1.60	Pigeons	4.00 - 4.25 ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	1.45 - 1.60	White Pigeons	5.00 - 5.25 ea.
Pekin Ducks	8.00 - 8.50 ea.	Rabbits	
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.70 - .90	4-6 LBS	1.60 - 2.00
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.90 - 1.05	Rabbits	
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	.70 - .80	6-9 LBS	1.30 - 1.40
Crossbred Roasters		Bunnies	3.00 - 9.00 ea.
4-6 LBS	.70 - .90	Guinea Pigs	5.00 - 7.00 ea.
Crossbred Roasters		Kid Goats	25.00 - 30.00 ea.
7-11 LBS	.60 - .80	Doves	5.00 - 6.00 ea.
Banty Roasters	3.50 - 3.75 ea.	Pullets	.90
Banty Hens	2.00 - 2.50 ea.	Total Coops Sold	301

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 12-APR-2003

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137-140	144-146
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	124-128	125-130
MOSTLY		

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	77.00-80.50	78.00-79.00
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	65.00-87.50	68.00-75.00

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-71.28
14 OZ.	66.96-77.92
16 OZ.	73.44-86.67

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS Prices remained unchanged. Trade sentiment steady. Demand was moderate to good. Schedules were usually full-time. Weights were desirable. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.25-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.35-1.45, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$0.30-0.50, livers at \$0.75-1.70, and feet at \$0.80-1.15.

NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 12-APR-2003

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	107-124	125
MOSTLY		

ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO

ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT	
MARCH	6	155.3	156.2	99%	5.41
	13	159.1	157.0	101%	5.06
	20	154.9	158.6	98%	5.15
	27	154.6	158.0	98%	5.16
APRIL	3	153.9	156.9	98%	5.19
	10	152.3	157.6	97%	5.22
YEAR TO DATE	2171.1	2199.6	99%		
APRIL	17	158.8			
	24	159.9			

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

	Under Federal Inspection				
	THOUSANDS				
W/E	04/17/04	04/10/04	% CHG	04/19/03	% CHG
Broilers	151,700	150,462*	+01	144,469*	+05
Cattle	591	564	+05	666*	-11
Hogs	1,978	1,973	0	1,877	+05

*ACTUAL

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Sales were too few to report on heavy canners. Light canners were generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate for lights; mostly fair for heavies as most available supplies were being used internally. Limited offerings were clearing satisfactorily. Processing schedules were normal to less than normal. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS**(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)**

24-31 MAJORITY 25.5-26

HEAVY CANNER HENS**(WITHOUT NECKS)**

TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS**(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)**

27-32 MAJORITY 27.5-28.5

HEAVY CANNER HENS**(WITHOUT NECKS)**

TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

LIGHT TYPE HENS

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS (INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Majority prices were generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate. Offering of spent fowl were more than sufficient for trade needs. Processing schedules mostly normal. Opinions on removal cost were steady.

RANGE MAJORITY

REMOVAL COST

0-12 8-10.5

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Costs of disposal were too few to report. Demand was light for fully adequate offerings of leghorn fowl. Schedules were less than capacity. Finished sales were moderate. Charges for removal were expected to remain unchanged.

RANGE MAJORITY

REMOVAL COST

TOO FEW TO REPORT

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Removal prices ranged unchanged to lower. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate. Demand was fairly good to good as rendering operations step in and book additional spent fowl. Opinions of value were generally steady.

RANGE MAJORITY

REMOVAL COST

0-10.5 5-5.5

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 29-MAR-04

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was mostly moderate. Offerings were adequate. Processing schedules were less than normal to normal. Supplies of finished product were clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was at least steady.

RANGE MAJORITY

AT FARM BUYER LOADING

TOO FEW TO REPORT

AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING

TOO FEW TO REPORT

FOB PLANT

TOO FEW TO REPORT

SOUTH CENTRAL LIVE HEAVY-TYPE HENS Trading levels were too few to report. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent heavy hens. Finished sales cleared available inventories. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

RANGE MAJORITY

AT FARM BUYER LOADING

TOO FEW TO REPORT

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plant schedules moderate. Offerings ample.

**USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS,
POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

Washington, DC	Voice	(202)720-6911	Mike Sheats
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Chief)
Atlanta, GA	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
Jackson, MS	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Southern States Area Supervisor)
Des Moines, IA	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
	Fax	(515)284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
Los Angeles, CA	Voice	(213)534-1330	Jim Derby
	Fax	(213)534-1333	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(213)534-1335	